

VICTORIA IS DEAD.

Britain's Beloved Queen Passes Peacefully Away.

EMPIRE IN MOURNING

Prince of Wales Ascends the Throne as King Edward VII.

Members of the Royal Family Were at the Bedside When the Final Summons Came—Career of the Noble Woman Who Governed the Destinies of More than Three Hundred Million Subjects—Her Reign Was the Longest in the History of the English People.

Queen Victoria is dead. She passed away Tuesday, surrounded by her physicians and the members of her family. The Prince of Wales is now King of Great Britain and Ireland and Emperor of India. The Queen's death places him on the throne as her legal successor. He will reign as Edward VII.

The Queen died at 5:30 o'clock Tuesday night in Osborne House, at Cowes, Isle of Wight. The end of this career, never equaled by any woman in the world's history, came in a simply furnished room. This most reverend of all women, living or dead, lay in a great four-posted bed and made a shrunken atom whose aged face and figure were a cruel mockery of the fair girl who, in 1837, began to rule over England. In scared midlife words, the white-haired bishop of Winchester prayed beside her, "With bated breath the impious ruler of the German Empire



PROCLAMATION OF SUCCESSION.

The proclamation of the death of Queen Victoria and the succession of King Edward was issued immediately upon the Queen's death by the premier, Lord Salisbury, and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. The first symptoms of serious decay during the stay of the court at Windsor in November and December, 1899, when the evil tidings from the South African war came in rapid succession, Gen. Buller, before leaving, had assured the Queen that the campaign would be "difficult, but not dangerous." So the news of reverses came upon her with added severity. She never forgave Gen. Buller, and when his name was submitted for a command to visit Windsor after his return from the war, she stroked it through with her pen.

At this time the Queen had fits of crying, which in an aggravated form preceded her present critical illness. Her excitement over her Irish visit seemed to revive her, but before the visit ended a reaction set in. The public, however, were hoodwinked by accounts of her al-

ways, it is said, that she was capable of acting when she deemed action necessary, and it is the possession of those attributes, no doubt, which in large degree is due her unique position among the rulers of the world. No monarch in Europe, probably, is more beloved around with limitations than the ruler of England, yet no sovereign now living can command either the unquestioning confidence or the respect which has been freely accorded to Victoria.

The change of rulers necessitated by the death of the Queen comes at a time when the empire is beset with dangers and difficulties. After an era which is destined to be as distinctive in British history as the era of Elizabeth, it was Victoria's fate to see the British empire embarrassed by war and apparently losing its primacy among the nations of the

THRONE NEVER VACANT.

Prince of Wales Becomes King of England Immediately.

The theory of the English constitution is that the throne of Great Britain is never vacant. In other words, the sovereign never dies; the succession of an heir being instantaneous. Hence as De Laveaux explains it, the ceremony of coronation is merely a solemn recognition and confirmation of royal descent and the consequent right of accession to the throne, and unnecessary for the security of the title to the crown. It is customary on the death of the sovereign for the Archbishops of Canterbury and the prime minister to notify the heir apparent of his accession, though even this is technically superfluous.

The death of the sovereign brings the existing government to an end. The prime minister and Parliament are immediately dissolved. A general election is ordered and the sovereign represents the ministers to retain their portfolios pending the result of the election. The coronation is usually deferred for some months. Queen Victoria was crowned a year and one-half days after her accession.

Longest Reign in History.

The Queen is the oldest monarch who has occupied the English throne, and has reigned for a longer period than any

earth. Whether it has not actually passed the climax of its greatness and is now on the point of a retrograde movement is a question yet to be determined. The circumstances under which Albert Edward assumes the sovereign power as Edward VII are therefore peculiarly trying, but thoughtful observers will be slow to conclude that as king he will fail to satisfy the needs and exigencies of the British people. However England may have looked upon its heir apparent twenty years ago, in the recent years during which he has been called upon to perform most of the public and ceremonial functions of the monarch, acting as Victoria's representative, he has done much to make the nation great and in all probability will be comparatively in all probability will be brief.

The present threatened change in Great Britain's political and colonial status is going to make new plans and policies necessary; moreover, he will have an advantage in the fact that he is not too old to become reconciled to changes or to help in putting them into effect.

At the outset of his reign he will find on every hand impressive illustrations of the power and usefulness of the British sovereign who rules us. Victoria ruled with honesty of purpose, largeness of heart, and an unswerving love of her subjects.

TELLS NATION'S GRIEVE.

McKinley Cables to King Edward that "America is in Mourning."

President McKinley sent the following message of condolence to King Edward VII:

"His Majesty the King, Osborne House, Isle of Wight: I have received with profound sorrow the lamentable tidings of the death of Her Majesty the Queen. Allow me, sir, to offer my sincere sympathy and that of the American people in your personal bereavement, and in the loss Great Britain has suffered in the death of its venerable and illustrious sovereign, whose noble life and benevolent influence have promoted the peace and welfare of her essential goodness and her well-poised character have at least

CHRONOLOGY OF THE QUEEN'S LIFE.

1819, May 24—Born at Kensington Palace, London.  
1820, Jan. 23—Duke of Kent died.  
1837, June 20—Wife, Queen Victoria, King of England, and Queen of Victoria, died.  
1837, June 28—Coronation of Queen Victoria, in Westminster Abbey.  
1837, Nov. 29—Queen opened her first Parliament.  
1839, Oct. 15—Prince proposed marriage to Prince Consort.  
1840, Feb. 10—Married to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg.  
1840, Nov. 21—Birth of Victoria Adelaide, Princess Royal.  
1841, Nov. 9—Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, born.  
1842, Sept. 1—Queen's first visit to Scotland.  
1846, June 20—Corn Law repealed.  
1848, Feb. 10—Prince Albert, Queen's first Prime Minister, died.  
1854, Feb. 28—Declaration of war against Russia.  
1856, Nov. 29—Thanksgiving for suppression of Indian mutiny.  
1861—Duchess of Kent, Queen's mother, died.  
1861, May 14—Prince Consort died.  
1863, March 10—Prince of Wales married Princess Alexandra.  
1868, Jan. 28—Queen's first book published.  
1872, June 29—Queen shot at by Arthur O'Connor.  
1876, May 1—Proclaimed Empress of India.  
1882, March 27—John Brown, the Queen's butler, servant, died.  
1882, June 29—Coronation of the Queen's golden Duke.  
1892, Jan. 2—Duke of Clarence and Avondale died.  
1893, May 6—Duke of York, married to the Princess May, Duke of York, married to the Princess.  
1894, May 21—Inaugurated Manchester Ship Canal.  
1896, June 29—Queen exceeded the length of any other English sovereign's.  
1897, June 24—Celebration of diamond jubilee.  
1899, Oct. 12—War declared in South Africa.  
1900, May 24—Celebrated eighty-first birthday.

1901, May 20—Princess capitated.  
1901, Jan. 22—Queen Victoria died.

VICTORIA'S LAST DAYS.

The Queen's Health Had Been Falling for Months.

According to a London correspondent, Queen Victoria's constitution manifested the first symptoms of serious decay during the stay of the court at Windsor in November and December, 1899, when the evil tidings from the South African war came in rapid succession. Gen. Buller, before leaving, had assured the Queen that the campaign would be "difficult, but not dangerous." So the news of reverses came upon her with added severity. She never forgave Gen. Buller, and when his name was submitted for a command to visit Windsor after his return from the war, she stroked it through with her pen.

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BORN TO BE KING.

Queen Victoria's Eldest Son Educated for Throne of England.

Albert Edward, the ascendant to the British throne, was born on Nov. 9, 1841, at Buckingham Palace. As the eldest son of the sovereign he became, at the moment of his birth, the Duke of Cornwall, and before he was 4 weeks old he was created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester by royal patent. As Duke of Cornwall he became entitled to revenues amounting to \$60,000. By right of inheritance the young prince also became Duke of Rothesay and Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Prince of Saxony, Earl of Carrick, Earl of Dublin and Baron Renfrew, and he also has the title of Lord of the Isles.

During the first few years of the prince's life the public did not have any opportunity to see much of him. The

HOAR, them, but their enemies' victories were only temporary. After having deadlocked the last preceding session of the Pennsylvania Legislature, M. S. Quay was appointed by Gov. Stone as his own successor. The United States Senate by a majority of one rejected the appointment as unconstitutional. Quay, they say, is a man who never forgets, and he has been sworn in again in the Senate, where he was always a power.

Clark's principal enemy in Montana, Marcus Daly, is now dead, and he had little opposition in the Legislature, which elected him to succeed Senator Carter, Republican, who got his office through Daly's aid.

After the bribery charges had been heard and a majority report against Clark was filed by a Senate committee, last winter, Clark

resigned before a vote could be taken on the report. To fill the vacancy he was appointed by Acting Governor Spivings, a Clark partisan, while Gov. Smith of Montana was out of the State. When Smith returned he at once revoked Clark's appointment and named Martin Maginnis in his stead. The Clark-Maginnis credentials were referred to a committee and pigeon-holed. Clark only waiting for the Legislature to convene again.

Three new Senators who have been named are B. W. Carmack of Tennessee, T. M. Patterson of Colorado, Denver, and Henry B. Burnham of New Hampshire.

Both the first two have been in the lower house of Congress. Patterson is editor of a Denver newspaper and Carmack was formerly editor of a Memphis paper.

TILLMAN. Patterson succeeds Edward O. Wolcott, Republican and Carmack is the successor of Thomas B. Turley, Democrat.

Burnham will occupy the seat now held by W. E. Chandler.

Benjamin R. Tillman was once more elected in South Carolina by the Democrats, and George Frisbee Hoar was chosen as his own successor by the Massachusetts Legislature, while James McMillan was chosen without opposition to succeed himself. The Senate and House of the Maine Legislature in joint session confirmed and announced the re-election of William P. Frye.

Fred T. Dubois, fusionist, defeated G. L. Shoup, Republican, in Idaho by a vote of 41 to 27.

He announced that he would henceforth be a Democrat. He was once sent to the United States Senate as a Republican, but voted with the Democrats on monetary and other legislation.

Attention has been focused on the Nebraska legislature, where there has been a deadlock over the choice of two Senators. One will succeed John M. Thurston, Standard Oil attorney, the other, Thomas Allen, fusionist.

Delaware has its usual senatorial deadlock. The Republican strength is divided between Addicks and anti-Addicks men.

There seems little likelihood of a choice.

THIS BOY WAS KIDNAPED.

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leged replies to addresses and other evidence of mental activity, when in reality the Queen lived as a dream.

Her spirits revived in her Highland home under the influence of Earl Roberts' achievements, but the death of Prince Christian Victor, the hopeless reports concerning Empress Frederick, and the prospect of an indefinite prolongation of the war, constituted a trial under which in November her health began to suffer. Still her spirit remained unbroken, and when it was reported President Kruger said the war would claim her as one of its victims, the Queen declared: "I may die, but Mr. Kruger won't kill me."

So alarming was her condition beginning in December that the royal family was precluded from going on the continent. The change to Osborne did not work the benefit anticipated, as the war news and the illness of Empress Frederick became an obsession with the Queen, who suffered with increasing frequency.

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from depression and crying. She was constantly referring to the death of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and expressed a wish to see the duchess, who accordingly was brought to Osborne, but the first interview with the duchess left the Queen prostrated with grief. The last drive she had was with the duchess as a companion. On her return in the carriage the Queen was asleep, in which condition she was taken to bed, from which she did not afterward arise.

Every minute of his time in London is spent according to schedule.

He is a D. C. L. of Oxford, an LL. D. of Cambridge and a barrister.

He is the chief horse owner, dog owner and yachtsman in England.

His favorite vehicle in London is a horseman's club, yet his stables cost \$75,000 a year.

He has one private secretary, two assistant secretaries and a staff of clerks to assist them.

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# The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

PRICES ARE STEADY.

ENORMOUS DEALS REPORTED BY DUN'S AGENCY.

Wool Situation Desolate of Encouraging Features—Wheat Exports Are Large—Cross Keys, New Jersey, Man Is Slowly Turning to Stone.

R. G. Dunn & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "Rarely has there been more business in staples and in manufactured goods at practically unchanged prices than during the period since Nov. 1. This week seems to have marked the climax of enormous dealings at figures which have become familiar. Bank clearings at New York gain 52.1 per cent over 1900, and 1.3 per cent over 1899 for the week, while at lending cities outside New York there is a gain of 9.3 per cent over 1900 and 3.4 per cent over 1899. Railroad earnings thus far reported for January show a gain of 11.4 per cent over last year, and 24.6 per cent over 1899. It is difficult to find encouraging features in the wool situation. Sales for the week at the chief Eastern cities were 1,000,000 pounds smaller than in the preceding week, and in four weeks the aggregate is only 13,273,500 pounds, against 21,504,700 pounds last year. Despite the advance in prices over those prevailing a year ago exports of wheat, including flour, from Atlantic ports for the week were 2,563,818 bushels, against 1,644,146 bushels last year, and of corn, 3,472,614 bushels, against 3,097,607 bushels in 1900. Exports for the week were 300 in the United States, against 231 last year, and 46 in Canada, against 38 last year."

MAN IS TURNING TO STONE.

George Lewis of Cross Keys, N. J., victim of Strange Malady. George W. Lewis of Cross Keys, N. J., is gradually turning to stone. "Mr. Lewis" at about seven years ago found that his fingers were beginning to get stiff and that he could move them only with difficulty. This stiffness crept up his arms and soon from the elbow down the flesh began to harden. The arms are now useless. The skin is drawn tightly over the bones, the sinews are contracted and the hands are like marble. The prick of a pin or needle is not felt; neither does a cut show any blood whatever. Mr. Lewis' feet and lower limbs began to stiffen and harden two years ago and are gradually becoming useless. The skin on his face is also drawing tightly over the bones and at the present rate of progress of the disease he will soon turn to stone altogether."

THREE BURNED TO DEATH.

Parents Escape from Burning House, but Their Children Are Cremated. The three children of S. R. McCarty, a janitor at a downtown office building, were cremated in a fire that destroyed their home in an eastern suburb of Kansas City. They were Edith, aged 18 years; Melissa, 14, and Kenneth, 10. The parents occupied a room on the lower floor and were awakened to find the entire building in flames. They escaped, but the children, who slept above, were cut off. They were suffocated in their beds and their bodies burned almost beyond recognition.

Keeps Officials from Jail.

At Hamilton, Ohio, the Circuit Court granted an indefinite suspension of Judge Neilan's order of arrest and fine against Mayor Bosch. Police Chief Stroh and the members of the board of control were charged with violating an injunction in the enforcement of an order preventing the Elkins gas syndicate from piping the city.

Hurled to Death by Landslide.

A landslide on the Atlantic, Knoxville and Northern road threw a freight train and three cars in the Hiawassee river at McFarland, Tenn. Engineer B. D. Feltmet and Fireman J. W. Collette were killed and Steam Shovel Foreman Green Perry fatally injured.

Sweats Blood Until Death.

Mary Gair, aged 5 years, died in Willsboro, Pa., under peculiar circumstances. During the past two weeks the child had been suffering with cerebral hemorrhage which developed into hemorrhage of the skin—virtually sweating blood.

Young Man Lost in a Mine.

John Zylinski, a young coal miner, who was missing for over a week in the Green Ridge slope at Scranton, Pa., was found in one of the headings acting like a madman. In some unaccountable manner he became lost in the mine.

Fined for Wearing Her Hat.

Ashe Wabs, an actress, known as "Little Egypt," attended the matinee at the Crescent Theater, New Orleans, and would not remove her hat. She was arrested and fined \$15 or fifteen days in jail.

Skaters Drawn in Pond.

Sixty skaters, including many women and children, broke through the ice on a large pond back of Evergreen Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y., and in the wild struggle for life two boys were drowned.

Mr. Nation Is Whipped.

Before Mrs. Carrie Nation had been in Topeka two hours she engaged in a rough-and-tumble fight and was whipped by the wife of a local saloonkeeper.

Town Almost Wiped Out.

Fire wiped out the principal business section of Mattoon, N. J., causing a loss of more than \$100,000.

Young Girl Is Drowned.

Lola Vernon, 15 years old, of Swarthmore, a suburb of Philadelphia, while skating on Crum Creek, broke through the ice and was drowned. Lynn Merritt and Foster Harrow, boys, attempted to save the girl, and nearly perished with her.

Cable Power House Burns.

The cable power house of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company at Kansas City was destroyed by fire. The loss is about \$75,000 and is fully insured. Sixty cars were burned.

Six Men Bodily Sealed.

While testing a filtering tank at Carnegie's Thirty-third street mill in Pittsburgh, a hot-water pipe burst and six men were terribly gashed. Enginner John Dickerson was thrown into another hot-water tank and will probably die. The others will recover.

Potter & Kirkham Fail.

Wall street received a shock when the suspension of Potter & Kirkham, stock brokers at 57 Broadway, was announced on the floor of the Consolidated Exchange. Failure to collect outstanding accounts is said to be responsible for the firm's failure.

# FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE EARTH

CREEKS DEFF. GOVERNMENT.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

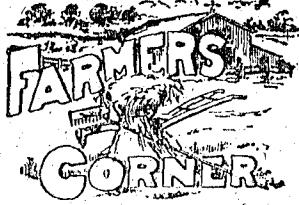
Conservative Indians Terrorized by the "Snake Bands." E. K. Frazier and others from the country west of Enfield, I. T., bring reports of fresh outrages perpetrated by the Creek Indians known as the "Snake bands," who are arresting and whipping the more conservative Indians. They have revived the ancient Creek laws and are seizing filing papers from Indians who have lied on affidavits. They while all Indians who file and threaten to cut off the ears of flags for the second offense. The "Snake" crowd are even whipping the other Indians for refusing to white people. The country is terrorized and the insurrectionists are armed to the teeth, collecting heavy fines in cattle and property from the conservatives. A detachment of the Light horsemen of the Snake band rode into Enfield and posted signs to the following effect: "Hickory Grapes, Creek Capital." To White, I. T., May, 1900.

Frank Kluft's Abstains from Food for About Eight Weeks. Frank Kluft, living at 45 Peotone, Ill., undertook, about eight weeks ago, to starve himself to death. He now, on all Indian citizens, numbering white labor shall be fined \$100, and shall receive 50 lashes upon the bare back; also, all persons creating food to white people. Any improvements made in the Creek nation by white men shall be confiscated and become the property of the Creek nation."

SUICIDE BY FORCE OF WILL.

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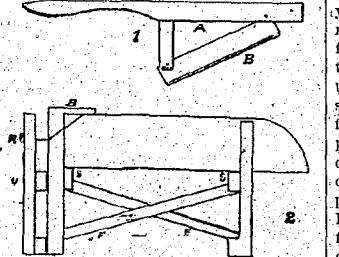
Boys KILLED WITH A CLUB.



Folder Cutter.

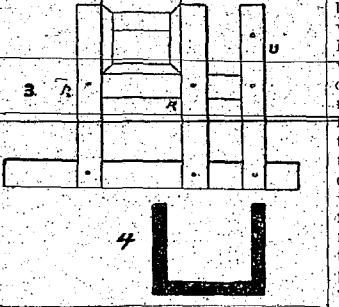
Figure 1 is the knife. The handle (A) is made of a 2x4-inch scantling and is 34 feet long. The blade (B) is made of a piece of steel procured at the hardware or iron store, 15 inches long, 3 inches wide and a quarter of an inch thick, but three-sixteenths of an inch might do. The manner of setting the blade is sufficiently explained by the figure.

Figure 2 is a side view of the box and frame. The box is made of boards one foot wide and 3½ feet long. By putting the bottom board between the side boards the inner measure of the box is 12 inches wide by 11 inches deep. Across the top of the front end of the box there is nailed a board (B) 12 inches wide, and underneath it, inside of the box, is an inclined board, as indicated



By dotted line, which forms the mouth and throat of the machine. This helps greatly to hold the folder in place for cutting. The legs, made of 1½x2½-inch staves, stand with their edges to the box, and are 3½ feet high; bottom of box 2½ feet from the floor. The supports (S) are nailed firmly to the legs, and the box is nailed both to the supports and to the legs; which, with the braces (F F), make the machine firm and strong. The support under front end extends four inches to the right to hold the upright pieces (U) in place, between which the end of the knife handle is held. There are also two other upright pieces (R R), one in front of each of the front legs, which are adjustable, to crowd the blade of the knife up close to the mouth of the machine.

Figure 3 is a front-end view. The crosspiece of the bottom, which is of the same thickness as the knife handle, projects eight inches on either side of the frame to form a wide base, so that the box cannot be easily overturned, and the workman can place his foot on the end next to him; and thus hold the machine in place. In Figure 3



the pieces U and R R can be more clearly seen.

Figure 4 is a bit of steel, shaped up with a square, smooth face for the knife to cut against, and is so nicely set in the mouth of the box as to form a smooth surface, so that stalks will not catch against it when feeding them through to the knife. The blade, of course, is made with a bevelled edge and set so as to cut like a pair of shears.

My cutter cost me, all-told, besides my own labor, not more than \$2, and does more work and does it better and more easily than any of the cheaper machines on the market, says the Ohio Farmer writer who describes the fore-

going.

**Lighter Horses Better.**

Farmers who have watched the ease with which the large draft horses handle heavy loads on good roads or city pavements have been led to think that a heavy horse must be the better animal in all cases; but we see many farm teams that are far inferior in the amount of work they can do in plowing or in drawing a load upon soft ground than a much lighter team would do easily. Then the heavy horses are driven over our hills roads often at a rate of speed that causes them to pound the earth so that the legs give out, and they are quickly lame. It certainly requires more tools to sustain a 1,600

pound horse than one weighing 1,000 to 1,200 pounds; and when not constantly employed, drawing heavy loads the amount of work done by the heavy horses does not compensate for the extra cost of maintaining them. As farmers will have next spring to buy horses or many will advise them to turn their attention to the smaller horses from Canada if they can be found rather than to the Percherons and Shires horses that have been so popular lately. They will cost less prices, cost less to keep, do about as much work and endure much longer—American Cultivator.

**Bulls in the Tread Power.**

When grinding feed for our herd, says an Ohio farmer, we use a tread power and two thoroughly-bred bulls. Not only is this economical, but the bulls are kept in better condition, being easy to manage, and are better breeders.

Scattering air-slacked lime liberally about the quarters is one of the best preventive of gipes.

Keep a good variety of fowls. Turkey, ducks, geese, as well as chickens, can be made profitable.

A French plumber named Giraud undertook a short time ago to ride a bicycle round the stone coping of a house at Lyons sixty feet above the street, and successfully accomplished the foolhardy feat.

**Good Year for Fruit Growers.**

Secretary Wesley Greene, in his annual report to the Iowa Horticultural Society, said: "Each year brings some new experience which characterizes it from all others. A year ago our thoughts were engaged with the prob-

lems presented by the unusual climatic conditions which proved so destructive to the roots of trees, commonly known as root killing. The lesson was an expensive one and hard to learn, but it will not soon be forgotten, and in the future we will give more attention to our study of plant life toward strengthening this part of the plant by avoiding combinations which have proven so disastrous to our orchards and fruit plantations. In 1900 the crop was not a large one, but prices were satisfactory, plants and trees made a good growth and on the whole the season was one of encouragement. No killing frosts occurred, however, until late in the fall, so that many of the trees retained their foliage into December.

Some fear has been expressed as to the result, but we see no occasion for alarm so long as the weather conditions are not too severe."

**How to Handle Bees.**

A person commencing to keep bees should learn their habits and approved methods of handling them. They should buy a few hives of bees from a reliable bee keeper. The best time to buy is in the spring. Be sure that you have a strong colony in the hive and enough honey to feed them until they can gather their food from spring flowers. If you have shade trees, place your hives near them so the bees can be sheltered from the direct rays of the sun. If the land slopes have an eastern exposure, it is possible, if you have no natural shelter, provide one. We are just old-fashioned enough to believe that it pays as well to shelter bees as any other live thing on the place. All energy consumes power. Energy has to be provided bees in the shape of honey. It takes honey to provide the energy for the bees who fan the hive in the extreme heat, also to keep the bees warm in the cold; shelter will reduce both heat and cold. So if the farmer keeps a few hives he will find it to his interest to invest in a small amount of lumber. Bees, when they can gather a full supply of honey, send off new colonies. The management of bees at and before swarming time would take more space than the editor can spare, so we will leave that for another paper. Of course, in these days only movable comb hives are used, as you will wish to control your brood comb and queen cells; also have your honey in section combs. The new hives and sections should be in stock, for you know not the day or hour when the bees may swarm.

**After a Search of Ten Years.**

William Comfort of Oakland County has found his son, for whom he had

gave a search for ten years, at Willmar, Ind. Comfort's story is the

authorities' that the child was kidnapped by its mother about twelve years ago and was placed in an Indiana orphanage, where, as a waif, he was taken by a family at Willmar. The child was legally adopted by the foster parents, who

will contest Comfort's claim in the courts of the State. Comfort says two other members of his family were adopted by families in Indiana; and he is determined to reunite them. Mrs. Comfort died soon after the estrangement with her husband.

**Bank Is Looted of \$3,500.**

William F. Sandell & Co.'s bank at Willmar was broken into by

robbers and \$3,500 was stolen.

Ellsworth was burned at an early hour the other morning, all the business portion being destroyed. The loss is \$10,000.

The situation in a West Le Roy dwelling, as indicated by the legend "Woman Wanted or House to Rent" requires no comment.

A sudden outbreak of water in sublevel of the Negamee minnow flooded lower portion of the old workings, causing a temporary suspension.

Sobnewing has the sugar beet fever bad. A proposition has been made to build a factory there if contracts for 5,000 acres of beets can be supplied.

Greenville is becoming a great shipping point for potatoes. Work has been begun on a starch factory there, which is to be in operation next September.

The contract has been let for the construction of Delta County's new jail at Escanaba. The building will be one of the finest of its kind in the upper peninsula.

Some months ago C. J. Walker of Caronville received injuries from which he never fully recovered. He has now brought a suit against the Pere Marquette Railroad for \$11,000 damages.

Silas Osholt, 54 years old, a resident of Medina township, was horribly mutilated by falling on a circular saw. His right arm was sawed off, and his side and back cut to pieces. He died in a few hours.

White hunting, four miles north of Ashley, a boy by the name of Pritchard, received a charge of shot in the neck from a shotgun in the hands of another boy, nearly blowing his head off, and killing him instantly.

The Hotel Trudell at Essexville burned the other day. It was a new two-story frame structure and the leading hotel of the village. Nearly all the contents, including the personal effects of the guests and boarders, were destroyed. The loss will reach \$6,000.

**Explanatory.**

The parable requires a sketch of oriental wedding customs. For this, as for wealth of illustrative material on all subjects connected with the gospel, see Edersheim's life of Christ, now published in very inexpensive editions. The vir-

gins were to be part of the escort of the bridal party on the way from the bride's house to the bridegroom's. They were to wait in some appointed place until the music of the approaching procession was heard in the distance, and then, notified by a messenger, were to go to meet the procession and join it, passing in with the rest to the bridegroom's house where the marriage and the banquet were to occur. The lamps carried on such an occasion were not unlike in principle the torches carried in political processions today; that is, they were composed of a receptacle for oil, a wick, and a long handle. Of course, prudent people going out with such lights and expecting to remain for hours would carry a reserve supply of oil. This the foolish virgins neglected.

The wise virgins have often been called selfish and hard-hearted. Here, in truth, the parable fails to parallel perfectly the case of the men and women who will be found wanting at Christ's coming; for while the wise virgins could, had they been willing, have given away their oil to the foolish, though perhaps at the expense of their own safety, the foolish are unprepared at Christ's coming, cannot borrow preparedness from their Christian neighbors. The oil of spiritual life is untransferable in this way.

Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour; this is the burden of nearly the whole conversation—preparedness in view of uncertainty. That the early Christians took this lesson to heart is evident from the earnest, energetic character of their individual and church life. The modern church has lost immeasurably in abandoning this motive because of the supposed remoteness of Christ's coming.

Whatever we think about the ultimate and supreme coming, there can be no stranger entered the shop and after being shaved sat down by the stove for a few minutes. Suddenly he jumped up, grabbed a double-barreled shotgun hanging on the wall, placed the muzzle under his chin and with one hand reached down and pulled both triggers. Fortunately it was not loaded, or the man's head would have been blown completely off. The whole thing was done so quickly that none of the witnesses could stop the man, who is supposed to be crazy.

The village of Merrill was visited by a destructive fire. The fire originated in an alleyway next to the meat market of George Weisz, and is believed to have been of incendiary origin. All was asked for from Saginaw as a last resort, the local fire department having contended with it two hours and a half, when gaining control of the fire, the request for aid was countenanced. The losses are nearly as possible to estimate as follows:

Daniel McCauley, general store, \$9,000 on stock and building; George McVicker, \$1,500 on stock; James Jordan, on building occupied by McVicker, \$2,000; Geo. Weisz, stock \$250, and on building, owned by James Stewart of Port Huron, \$300. The property destroyed was only partially insured.

**Country Notes.**

A drake and six ducks make an excellent mating.

The hens should always have some coarse to dust.

With young chickens, for a time, at least, coaxed food is best.

Bran should always be scalded before feeding to the hens.

President Angell of the University of Michigan has issued an order barring from class privileges students who are not vaccinated.

William Flynn, a farmer residing near Mt. Morris, slipped on some ice and fell heavily, striking on his head and inflicting a bad scalp wound.

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Grease closes the pores of the eggshells and often prevents them from hatching.

Turkeys are naturally very thirsty fowls, and may be given milk instead of water.

When hens are crowded the weaker ones will become poor and the stronger fat and vigorous.

Scattering air-slacked lime liberally about the quarters is one of the best preventive of gipes.

Keep a good variety of fowls. Turkey, ducks, geese, as well as chickens, can be made profitable.

A French plumber named Giraud un-

dertook a short time ago to ride a bicycle round the stone coping of a house at Lyons sixty feet above the street, and successfully accomplished the foolhardy feat.

**Electricity as a motor for regular railroad trains has been found 15 per-**

cent cheaper than steam in the experiments recently made at Berlin.

## MICHIGAN MATTERS.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK CONCISELY CONDENSED.

Young Boy Killed by Joking Brother—Finds Long-Lost Son in Indiana—New Baltimore Bank is Robbed—Witness Contradicts Former Testimony.

Augustus Faust, aged 13, shot and killed his brother, aged 11 years, at the Faust home near Stevenson. Young Faust had just returned from a day's hunting and calling to his younger brother, "Albert, come quick. I have

something to show you." With a cry of

delight at the return of his favorite brother with something interesting to show him, little Albert hastened toward the door of the room where his brother stood.

Between the two rooms there were two heavy curtains. When little Albert approached the curtains he was confronted by the two ugly barrels of a shotgun. There was a deafening report and little Albert sank to the floor without a gun. The gun had burst.

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# The Avalanche.

G. PALMER, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR

THURSDAY, JAN. 31, 1900.

Entered in the Post Office, at Grayling, Mich., as second-class matter.

## POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Cleveland's efforts to pull the democratic party out of the mire would receive more applause if Democrats could forget Mr. Cleveland's share in putting it into the mire.

Pan American banners are now flying in the streets of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other large American cities. Beneath them millions of people pass every day, and there few of these who do not look up and take note that a great Exposition for all the Americas which will be the biggest thing of its kind this ever had happened is going to be held in Buffalo this year.

There is a strong movement in the northwestern states for Congress to make a national park at the headwaters of the Mississippi. In order to save from destruction very nearly the last virgin forest of pine existing in America. The movement finds voice in the February number of "The Delineator" in a description given of the work undertaken by the Women's Clubs of Minnesota. Their forestry work will have interest for the States of Wisconsin and Michigan; in fact, the country at large.

Senators rather enjoy the alleged discovery of a plot to oust Gen. Miles from command of the army and give the command to either Gen. Oats or Gen. Brooke, under the clause of the Army Reorganization bill providing for the appointment of a Lieutenant-general of the army. Gen. Miles now receives the pay and allowance of a lieutenant general, but his rank is that of major-general. There is only one trouble about the story. It had no foundation. Gen. Miles is reasonably sure to be nominated a Lieutenant general by the President under the new law.

There is a rattling good story in the February number of "The Delineator" entitled "The Flagging of the Cannon Ball." It tells of a wife's devotion to her husband, who has just been appointed conductor on an express train and who is to pass through a mining district where the train is to be wrecked. Elmore Elliott Peake the writer of the story, has "come out of the west" with the energy and breeziness of Young Lochinvar. His story "The Darlings" has secured him fame, and if he keeps up his present style of writing, he will rank very high among modern story-tellers.

A dispatch from West Point, N. Y., says the Congressional investigation of the West Point military academy has borne fruit rather unexpectedly. Saturday when the congressmen were hurrying there inquiries to a termination, the cadets of all four classes held a meeting in Grant hall, and unanimously decided to abolish hazing in every form, as well as the practice of "calling out" four-class men. This is exactly what General Dick and the other members of the congressional committee have been trying to impress on the cadets who have testified before them as the only course open to them if they desired to see the fair name of the United States military academy unsullied and above reproach. The communication was addressed to Superintendent A. L. Mills, who only got back from Washington on that morning, and he quickly brought it to General Dick. The committee are delighted with the action of the action of the cadets, and General Dick, in a few words, said they would all go back to the house of representatives with the firm belief that in spirit and letter the agreement would be steadfastly adhered to by the cadets, who made it voluntary.

All remember that when a protective tariff was the issue in politics how the Democrats claimed it would "build a stone wall" around the country and would shut out imports and if we did not buy from other nations, they would not buy from the United States. They were about as far out the way as when they claimed that the free coinage of silver was the only salvation for our country. A Washington dispatch says: "A remarkable change has come over the commerce of the United States in the decade ending with the calendar year 1900. The figures of the treasury bureau of statistics show that imports, which in 1890 were \$823,397,726, were 1900, \$829,052,110, an increase of less than one per cent; while the exports, which in 1890 were \$857,502,548, were, in 1900, \$1,478,050,854, an increase of 72.4 per cent. In 1890 the excess of exports over imports was \$5,651,300; in 1900 it was \$648,908,738."

## A DOG MYSTERY.

It is a mystery why women endure Backache, Headache, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Melancholy, Painting and Dizzy Spells when thousands have proved that Electricity will quickly cure such troubles. "I suffered for years with kidney trouble," writes Mrs. Phoebe Charley, of Peterman, Ia., "and a lame back pa set me so I could not dress myself, but Electric Bittern wholly cured me, and, although 73 years old, I now do all my own housework." It overcomes constipation, improves appetite, gives perfect health. Only 50¢ at L. Fournier's drug store.

The Lyre is the name of a bright magazine published at Harbor Springs, Mich., replete with up-to-date humor. No other publication on earth like it. Original features in every issue and every subscriber gets a handsome Liar's diploma. The greatest thing out. Send 50¢ for a year. You will never regret it. Address THE LYRE, Harbor Springs, Mich.

## TRIED FIVE DOCTORS.

Mrs. Frances L. Sales of Missouri Valley, Ia., writes: "I had severe kidney trouble for years, had tried five doctors without benefit, but three bottles of Foley's Kidney Cure cured me." L. Fournier.

The lamenting Jeremiads are out in force. "Collier's Weekly" wants us to watch for the terrible times that are to ravage the land before Mr. McKinley leaves office. Jeb says so, too. We venture to predict four such years as no nation has ever seen; partly because confidence has come into all lines of life, partly because of our vast national resources, partly because of the intelligence, ability, honesty, thrift and industry of our own people, partly because the world wants to go ahead, partly because we are playing an honest, open square game in the East and West, partly because a new world of some 300,000,000 people are going to push forward along lines laid down by our people from the beginning. Why, for one reason favoring four more years of prosperity there isn't one against it. —Philadelphia "Manufacturer."

## IT GUARDS THE GLOBE.

The fame of Bucklen's Arnica Salve, as the best in the world, extends around the earth. It's the one perfect healer of Cuts, Corns, Burns, Bruises, Sores, Scalds, Boils, Ulcers, Felons, Aches, Pains, and all Skin Eruptions. Only Infalliable Pile cure. 25¢ a box at L. Fournier's drug store.

Foresight is better than hindsight, but usually our foresight is all the better for little hindsight. The people of the United States will see more clearly what would befall the country in case the principle of protection should be abandoned or seriously modified, if they will take a look back, first, to see what has happened to the country when that principle has been departed from in the past—a look back to 1877 and 1857 and 1893, all of them "panic years" and all of them years of repudiation, in part at least, of the policy of protection. The chief value of this study of history is in the lessons we learn as to the wisest methods of dealing with the problems of to-day from observations and analysis which we make of the results flowing from the methods used in handling similar problems in the past. And if there is one fact more emphatically taught than any other by our industrial history, from the adoption of the constitution until now, it is that industrial ruin has always followed Free Trade and that prosperity has invariably accompanied a protective tariff. —Am. Economist.

## BLown TO ATOMS.

The old idea that the body sometimes needs a powerful, drastic purgative pill has been exploded; for Dr. King's New Life Pill, which are perfectly harmless, gently stimulate liver and bowels to expel poisonous matter, cleanse the system and absolutely cure Constipation and Sick Headache. Only 50¢ at L. Fournier's drug store.

Once upon a time, so the story goes, an old lady who was a direct lineal descendant of the original Mrs. Malaprop, was wandering through the magnificent conservatory of a Canadian nobleman; her eye chancing to light upon a blossom which especially attracted her, she remarked: "What a beautiful specimen of the Diabetes plant!"

"Yes," answered her host, "it certainly does resemble the sweet pea."

## BROUGHT GOOD FORTUNE.

A small item in his own paper lately brought amazing good fortune to Editor Chris, writer of the Saginaw (Mich.) Post and Zeitung. He and his family had the grip in its worst form. Their Doctor did no good. Then he read that Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, Coughs and Colds was a guaranteed cure for La Grippe and all Throat and Lung troubles; tried it and says: "Three bottles cured the whole family. No other medicine on earth equals it." Only 50¢ and \$1 at L. Fournier's drug store. Trial bottles free.

WANTED—Capable, reliable person in every country to represent large company of solid financial reputation: \$200 salary per year, plus expenses, straight comission, flat salary, no commission. Salary paid each Saturday and expense money advanced each month. Standard house, 330 Beaubien street, Chicago.

## PUBLIC NOTICE.

At a special meeting of the Board of Health of the township of Grayling, in Crawford County, Michigan, held in the Township hall in said Township on the 14 day of January A. D. 1900 pursuant to the call of the president of said Board, there were present the following members of said board: to wit: Wright Havens, acting chairman, Daniel McKay, J. P. C. W. Wright, Clerk.

Mr. Wright Havens offered the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, we, the Board of Health of the township of Grayling, deeming it necessary for the public health and safety, do make and enact the following regulations or by-laws to:

1. The principal of each and every public school located in the township of Grayling, county of Crawford, state of Michigan, shall upon each day's session of said schools furnish to the Board of Health of said township up blanks to be filled in, furnished by said board a report showing the name, age, and sex of every pupil of said schools absent or dismissed from school, the name of the parent or guardian of every pupil so absent or dismissed, the reason given, if any, for the absence of such pupil and the reason of dismissal of such pupil. It shall be the duty of the clerk of this board to furnish to the principal of such schools, printed blanks for the use of said principals

in making these reports and envelopes directed to the clerk of this board stamped with sufficient postage to enable said principal to forward them to said clerk through the United States mail: Provided, however, that the operation of these by-laws may be suspended by resolution of this board properly adopted and said in-

formation need not be furnished by said principals or schoolmasters to the reception by him of the notice of such suspension until such time as he shall be again notified that this by-law is again in force. At any time after the suspension of this by-law as aforesaid the same shall again become in force and full effect upon a motion or resolution to that effect of this board passed or adopted at any meeting of this board and on the service thereof upon the principal of this school. It is hereby made the duty of the clerk of this board to notify the principal of this school to no-

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# The Avalanche.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31, 1900.

## LOCAL ITEMS.

Read R. Meyers' new Ad.

FOR RENT.—A cozy house. Enquire of L. Fournier.

FOR DOORS, SASH, GLASS AND PUTTY go to A. Kraus.

WANTED—Wood cutters. Enquire of T. Hanson, Grayling, Mich.

The W. H. M. S. will meet at the home of Mrs. Ada Trumley, Friday afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

FOR SALE, CHEAP.—A good 4 room cottage in Brule's addition. Inquire at this office. Jan 24-1m.

Subscribe for the Avalanche and the "American Boy." Only \$1.25 a year.

Peninsular Stoves and Ranges guaranteed the best. Sold by A. Kraus.

Boys, if your father takes the Avalanche, and you want a good paper for yourself, call for a copy of the American Boy.

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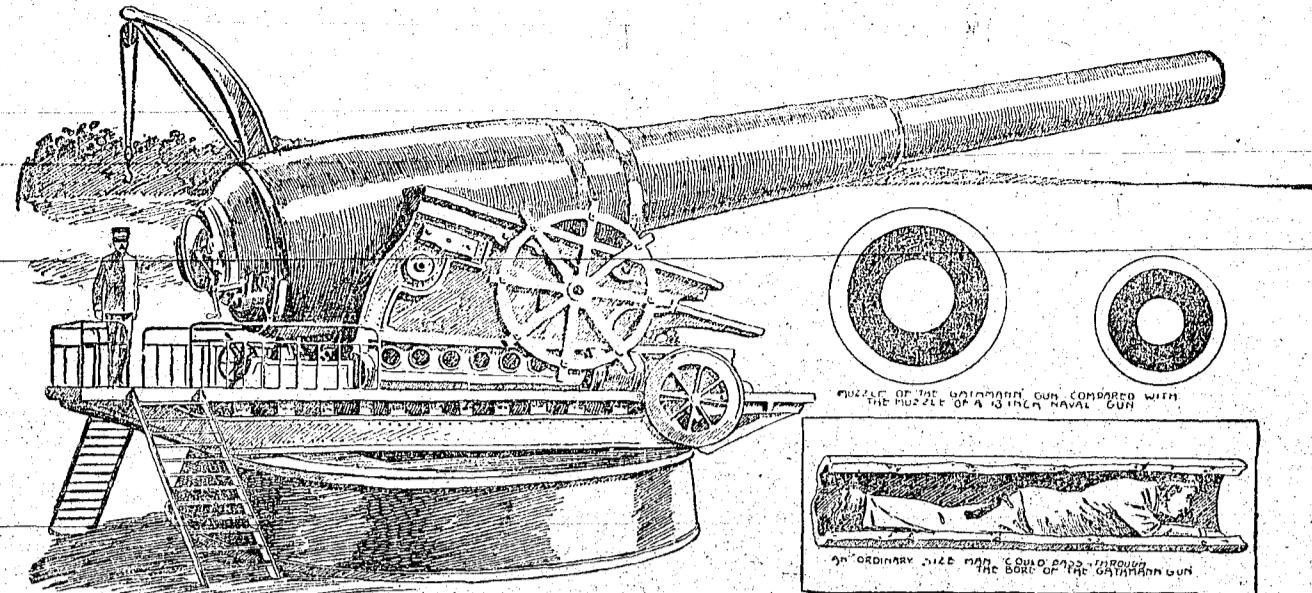
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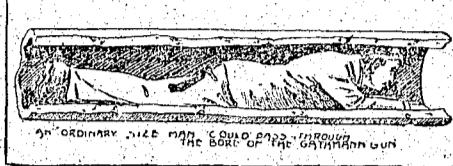
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## THE GREAT GATHMANN DYNAMITE GUN.



PULSE OF THE GATHMANN GUN COMPARED WITH THE PULSE OF A 13-INCH NAVAL GUN



WITH the actual introduction of the Gathmann gun into coast defense will come a new era in harbor defenses in this country. In caliber it is the largest weapon in use, having a bore of eighteen inches. What this means can be best illustrated by stating that the heavy turret guns on America's battleships are mostly of twelve-inch caliber, a few being thirteen-inchers. Five inches in the bore of a gun is a tremendous factor indeed. But it is not in the bore or the size of the gun that the Gathmann arm marks a new departure. It is in the fact that it will fire shells loaded with gun cotton—each shell to contain 600 pounds of that dreaded substance. Six hundred pounds of gun cotton bursting aboard any ship of war means practically the destruction of that ship. For twelve miles in any direction from the gun no enemy will be safe from the possibility of receiving such a charge.

This gun stands to-day the first to use powder of the ordinary service sort, brown or smokeless, to fire a shell filled with an explosive of higher grade than the powder itself, and of far greater sensitiveness to detonation. That it will do is practically certain. Gun cotton, though not so sensitive as dynamite, is by no means an article to be toyed with. To prevent explosion it is commonly kept saturated with water. And in a saturated condition it will be loaded into the shell and fired. Alongside of the saturated gun cotton there is a small charge of dry gun cotton, and leading to this is a fuse with a fulminate cap, striking a

blow on explosion equal to fifty pounds. This blow detonates the dry gun cotton, and the dry gun cotton detonates the wet.

Twelve miles is a long distance. Farther than the human eye can reach, except at very lofty altitudes. Further than any gunner, unless artificially aided, can train a gun or observe a target. Further than the sound of a very heavy explosion will carry, unless in a muffled roar. Yet it is proposed to make the Gathmann gun effective at twelve miles, or very near that distance, by aiding human vision by artificial means.

Indeed, war has made a revolution in human needs. Guns firing projectiles charged with high explosives are by no means new ideas, but heretofore their propelling force has been compressed air and their radius of action very small. The most familiar type is that of the Vesuvius, which was in action at Santiago, and "coughed" great quantities of dynamite over the shore, under cover of night. The noise of its explosions was terrifying, but it is not recorded that any damage was done. Then long before there was the Zalinski gun, the invention of an American army officer, which finally was placed in position in one of the forts of New York bay. There were great air compressors on each side of it, and the gun itself was long, clumsy and unwieldy. But as the pioneer of a type it is entitled to remembrance. With the addition of Gathmann guns the defenses of American harbors will take a long stride toward impregnability.

### MRS. ROOSEVELT IN SOCIETY.

#### She Will Occupy a Leading Position at Washington Functions.

Since the death of Vice President Hobart the late-Mrs. William P. Frye of Malone has enjoyed the honorary title of "the second lady of the land," by virtue of her husband's position as President of the Senate. She was a woman every way worthy of a place among the foremost of her sex and her untimely death a few weeks ago caused sincere sorrow. Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, wife of the Vice President, will be the leader at all official social functions, for the precarious health of Mrs. McKinley renders her presence, except on rare occasions, impossible. Many people have imbued the idea that Mrs. Roosevelt is a timid, retiring woman, with little interest in anything except household duties. Some have even suspected the Governor of being something of a domineering tyrant. Nothing further from the truth could be imagined. Mrs. Roosevelt is almost as decided a character as her husband. She is the Chatelaine of Sagamore Hill, the beautiful Roosevelt home at Oyster Bay, and no one who has ever visited there will be apt to forget the dignity and firmness with which she rules over the entire establishment. The Governor never dreams of questioning one of her orders.

Mrs. Roosevelt, who was Miss Edith Kermit Carow, is a young woman still and a very attractive one. Rather

odism, with only one exception the largest body of Christians in America.

The history of American Methodism is the most marvelous fact in the religious history of the nineteenth century. The first church of the century was erected at Marietta, Ohio, in 1801, built entirely of logs and affording the

saddle. The next instant she found herself struggling in the rapid current, occasionally disappearing beneath the waves and swiftly approaching the falls. White Wolf sprang far out into the flood, and a few strokes of his arms brought him close to the sinking girl. He grasped her long hair when she was within a few feet of the falls and struggled back to the shore and safety. That was the strange beginning of a friendship that has led to the altar.

#### American Lanterns.

American lanterns are exported to all the countries of the world where lanterns are used. Many are sent to South Africa and to South America; to Australia and New Zealand, and some are sold in Asia. Few, proportionately, are sent to Europe.

Kerosene oil is now commonly burned in lanterns all over the world. There are no lanterns made nowadays for candles only, but they are exported to South America; some lanterns made so that either candles or oil may be burned in them. These are provided with a candle socket, which may be set down into the oil reservoir, the wick holder having been removed. By removing the candle socket and screwing in the wick holder the lantern is made ready to burn oil. Excepting railroad and other lanterns for special uses, substantially all the lanterns made nowadays are of the kind known as tubular, first introduced about thirty years ago, and now made in various modifications as to detail; the tubular part of the lantern being designed with a view to producing better combustion and a brighter light. The lanterns made for ordinary uses are produced in about forty styles.

The American lanterns are the lightest, the slightest in appearance and the best adapted to their use, and they are sold cheaper than lanterns of equal quality produced elsewhere. There are large establishments in this country making lanterns only. It is probable that more lanterns are now exported from this country than from either England or Germany, and the exports of American lanterns are increasing. New York Sun.

#### Heating by Steam.

The art of heating buildings by steam has progressed so rapidly during the past ten years that there are now three distinct systems well developed, all performing the same kind of service, but doing it under conditions that vary materially. The oldest and most widely known of these is the gravity system, so called for the reason that the steam generated in the boiler rises up to the radiators, and, as it is condensed, the resulting water is returned to the boiler by gravitation, no appliance, other than the return pipe, being used for this purpose.

The next is what may be called the mechanical system, as mechanical means are frequently applied to reduce the pressure of the steam in the system from that exerted in the boiler, and mechanical appliances are always used to return the water of condensation from the return pipes of the system.

It is said that time will tell—yet people are constantly asking you what time it is.

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#### AS FAR AS I KNOW.

"As far as I know," said a person one night, "There is naught in this world but what is just right; I have all I want both to eat and to wear. The flowers I gather are fragrant and fair, The birds in the trees always sing a glad song. And as far as I know there is nothing wrong."

"All the people I know are loyal and kind; And I am contented in body and mind; I read about folks who are awfully bad."

About souls that are weary and hearts that are sad, About children that quarrel and people who fight, But as far as I know everything is all right.

"I read there are people who do many things That on them the worst kind of suffering brings; That women are wicked and men are untrue, And sinfulness runneth society thro', But as far as I know—as far as I know—I cannot afford that these stories are so."

The person who said that, as far as she knew,

"Was a child of six years, and to her it was true;

Or, what would we give could we all say to-night,

There is naught in the world but what is just right;

That we have all we want to eat and to wear,

And that justice and goodness abound everywhere?"

—Thomas F. Porter, in the Boston Globe.

#### Three Working Girls.

JAYNE FOREST GRAVES.

"Tea is ready, girls," said Saba Thor.

"Tea?" It was no luxurious repast of buttered toast, fruitcake. Ooking honey and preserves; no comfortable repast of cold fowl, tongue, potted meats and biscuit hot from the oven.

When Saba Thor called it "tea," she merely used a conventionalism. It was only a scanty meal of baker's bread, with a pat of cheap butter, a little smoked beef, which had been bought from the corner grocer's in a brown-paper cover, and some milk and water, blue and tasteless; for Saba and her two cousins found it necessary to economize, very strictly indeed.

Saba worked for an upholsterer. All day long she stitched pillow-ticks and tufted mattresses in a dark room, where there was a prevailing smell of rancid goose-feathers.

Her cousin, Helen, stood behind the counter of a milliner's shop on the Bowery; and little Kate—the youngest of the three—was "packer" in a fancy store, and could do up more neat paper parcels in a given time than would be believed possible.

They were all three pallid and colorless, like plants that had grown in a cellar. They all three had a certain languor of manner, and spoke in low, suppressed voices.

They lived together in this one room with a little alcove running out of it, because it was the cheapest mode of existence, and because their scant earnings, clubbed together, could be laid out to better advantage than if expended singly. Moreover, to these poor, homeless girls, there was a home feeling in being together.

"I don't feel hungry," said Helen, with a grimace.

"I am so tired of bread and butter," sighed little Kate. "Oh, if I could only have some of the stewed grapes that mother used to make!"

"Oh, that reminds me," said Saba, taking a letter off the mantel. "I've heard from old Mrs. Plunkay. She wants us to buy a fashionable full bonnet for her if we can get it for a dollar and a half; and to look out for a bargain for Louisa Jane's winter frock. She wants the very best quality, and she can't go higher than thirty-seven cents a yard."

She wishes to know if we are acquainted with anybody in the business who will dye over her pea-green silk skirt at half price."

Helen shrugged her shoulders.

"She must think we have plenty of time to execute her commissions," said she.

"Thirty-seven cents a yard!" cried little Kate. "And a full hat for a dollar and a half. Does the woman expect impossibilities?"

"But that isn't all," said Saba. "Uncle John is very poor. She thinks his relations ought to look after him."

"Uncle John," said Kate.

"Poor!" echoed Helen.

"But what has become of all his money?" said little Kate, intently knitting her brows.

"I'm sure I don't know," said Saba. "Mrs. Plunkay doesn't go into particulars. All the rest of the letter is about the sewing society, and the chicken cholera, which has carried off so many of her news."

"He must have been persuaded into investing in some of those dreadful mining stocks?" said little Kate.

"But, girls," said Saba, "what are we to do?"

"Precisely what he has always done to us," said Helen. "Let him alone."

"No, no, Helen!" pleaded little Kate.

"Don't think so. Remember, he is the only uncle we have got. He was our mother's brother."

"And what has he ever done for us?" retorted Helen, bitterly.

"That don't signify," reasoned Saba. "He is old and feeble. He needs our care. That is enough."

"Saba is right," urged little Kate.

"Uncle John mustn't be left to die alone."

"But what can we do?" said Helen. "We can't bring him here!"

"No," said Saba. "It would break his heart to take him away from the pine forests. We must go to him."

"And all starve together?" said Helen. "I don't see that that would be much of an improvement on the present state of things."

"Listen," said Saba, lifting an authoritative forefinger. From a trifling sentority in years, and a somewhat greater experience in the world of work," Saba had become quite an oracle. "I've been considering it, I can do the housework for Uncle John."

"Yes," said Helen.

"Of course," said little Kate. "And if he hasn't been able to sell the cow, we can perhaps have real creamy milk, and now and then a little cottage cheese. Oh, wouldn't that be splendid?"

"Helen could make bonnets for the farmers' wives," suggested Saba. "The women out there know what a pretty bonnet is as well as any one, only they can't get it."

"Bravo!" cried Helen, clapping her hands. "I do think I have rather a genius for the business!"

"And little Kate could go out to plain sewing by the day, among the neighbors," added Saba. "Or help around in soap-making and preserving times. There are a good many who would pay fifty cents a day and board for good intelligent help. And that is a deal more than she earns here."

Little Kate looked rather sober.

"I have my doubts about the plan working," said she. "But I couldn't stay here, away from you, if you all go, why, so will I."

"Then" went on Saba. "I've laid up six dollars toward a winter coat. Uncle John wants it more than I do. I'll keep it for him."

"There is my ten dollars in the savings bank," added Helen. "I'd want a pair of thick boots and a warm winter wrap. But if Uncle John is ready in need."

"I haven't saved any money," said little Kate, sorrowfully. "How could I, with my wages of two dollars a week?" But I will do all that I can to help."

"You are dear, generous girls, both of you," said Saba. "It may be a little hard, just at first, but it is clearly our duty to go to Uncle John. And I will write and tell him so this very night."

"Do," said Helen. "I'll borrow Miss Clift's ink-bottle, and there are a pen and two sheets of paper in the washstand drawer. I can buy a postage stamp at the druggist's on the corner. We'll have a postal card be cheap?" said wise little Kate.

But Saba shook her head.

"Would you put Uncle John's port-er on a postal-card?" said she.

And little Kate answered, somewhat abashed:

"I didn't think of that. I only thought of economizing a cent. I wonder if the time will ever come when we don't have to think of saving?"

And little Kate put on her hat and slipped around to the druggist's, where one particular clerk put himself out to wait upon her.

"She has got a nice like a daisy," said the druggist's clerk. "If ever I marry, I should like a wife like that. No, she's not much of a customer of ours, but I have seen her at church meetings, and I walk home with her sometimes of an evening. She lives in Timon's tenement-house with her sister and cousin, and works in Gracie's store. That's all I know about her. But she always makes me think of a wild flower."

Uncle John Jaycox was sitting by his fireside, when his niece's letter came. The fire of birch logs blazed gloriously up the chimney; a pair of fat, home-run candies glittered on the table. In all the room there was no evidence of grueling poverty.

"Yes," said Uncle John to a tall young man who sat opposite. "I guess I'll have you here to run the farm for me, Israel Penfield. It's gettin' too much for me to manage alone. But as for some woman to keep house for me, now that Anastasia Griswold has been fool enough to marry old Simpson—eh? what? a letter? I'm obliged to you, Miss Plunkay! Step and take a warm while I read it, and I'll git you a basket of gilliflower apples to carry home afterward. They're just splittin' be eaten, them gilliflower is."

But as he perused his letter, a certain expression stole over his rugged features.

"Sakes alive!" said he, stamping one foot on the floor. "What in creation does all this mean? I guess we'll have enough housekeepers, Israel. Here's my three nieces, from New York a-comin' to live with me, because Mrs. Plunkay here has writ 'em that I've lost my property. And they're goin' to take care of me. Well, I'll be durned if they ain't!"

"I didn't write no such!" whined Mrs. Plunkay with rather an alarm air. "I only said you was dreadful poor health. I meant the lumbago and rheumatiz. I didn't say nothing about money."

"Well, no matter what you said, nor what you didn't say," declared Uncle John, crumpling up the letter in his hand and staring at the fire. "The gals think I'm poor and they're comin' here to support me, and make a home for me in my old age—bless their hearts! I don't know why they should do it," he added, with a conscience-stricken face. "I never did nothing for them. And Rate and Helen are my sister Jane's daughters, and Saba is Hepzibah's only child, and they're workin' in a livin', and I've got more'n I know what to with. It's a shame, ain't it, that things is so unevenly divided?"

"Just exactly what I've always said," quietly remarked Israel Penfield, with being a member of Parliament—Pearson's Weekly.

Uncle John Jaycox looked at Israel with a queer twinkle in his opaque blue eyes.

"I declare!" said he, "them gals has taught me a lesson! I don't need to be took care of in my old age but I swan to goodness! it would be kind of pleasant to have three gals around, lookin' after the old man. I'm a mind to try it."

Iowa's Unenviable Distinction.

Iowa is one of the few states not represented in Statuary Hall at the national capital and members of Congress from the Hawkeye state are considering whether it is not time to abolish the unenviable distinction.

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"Saba is right," urged little Kate.

"Uncle John mustn't be left to die alone."

"I would, if I was you," said Israel Penfield.

So, when Saba, Helen and little Kate arrived, Uncle John received them with a warm welcome.

"Nieces," said he, "I ain't poor, nor I ain't likely to be; but I'm glad to see you. I'm glad to know that there's any one in the world cares enough for the old man to come and look after him, without no expectation of behin' paid for it. It sort o' shames up my confidence in human nature! Come in—come in! There's plenty of room for you all in the old farm-house. Come in and welcome."

The three girls looked at each other.

"Ought we to stay?" they asked each other.

"Yes," whispered little Kate. "There are two red cows in the field. I saw them."

"And the air smells so sweet!" said little Kate.

"And Uncle John spoke as if he was really, really glad to see us," said Saba. "Oh, yes, let us stay!"

Nor did any of the contracting parties ever regret the misunderstanding which had brought them so curiously together.

Little Kate went back to the city, after a year or two, to marry the druggist, who was now setting up in a small way for himself, and had come down to the country after the daisy-faced girl who had once attracted his attention.

Uncle John is engaged to marry Israel Penfield, and they are to have a regular old-fashioned wedding, when the dresses are made.

And Saba—quiet Saba—is to stay with Uncle John, to read the newspapers to him, and cheer up the long, lonely evenings.

"For, I couldn't get along without the girl, nowow," says Uncle John, joyfully. Saturday Night.

MINOR AMERICAN MISERIES.

Boston Society Which Would Make Away With the Worthless.

That is a popular fad which activates the promoters of the Animal Rescue League—that it is the duty of the community to see that no living being is permitted to live and suffer. It is pleasant to note that at its annual meeting yesterday the league showed a gratifying progress in the good work accomplished under its direction. In behalf of the four-footed waifs of the city, its work appears not only to be in accordance with humane sentiment, but in the interest of sanitary science. No thinking person is likely to gainsay the league's proposition that the health of the community demands that unclaimed animals be properly looked after and not allowed to spread contagion among healthy animals and children. Humanity demands, too, that outcast cats and dogs should not be permitted to remain as targets for street urchins.

There is no doubt that the founders of the Animal Rescue League were correct in their idea that a place in Boston, conveniently located, where lost, homeless and neglected cats and dogs could be taken would fill a long-felt want. The experience of the past six months would alone seem to prove the fact; 2,280 cats and dogs taken up from the streets—one can scarcely conceive what that involves in lessening of misery for the animals and for the quiet and order of the thoroughfares and back alleys. But this new "humble institution" is not, in my sense, a home for indigent animals. It is rather a clearing house wherein animals in fit condition are passed on to homes in which they are wanted and for those whose lives are simply misery provision is made at nominal cost for putting them mercifully out of existence. The supporters of the institution hold the belief that it is not right to spend money in keeping alive dogs and cats that are of no use to anybody or to themselves. They hold, too, that in the interests of sanitary science, animals should not be kept together in close quarters, as is done in some animal homes, for disease is sure to result.

Yet although the Animal Rescue League is not a sheltering home or a refuge, as its name might suggest, it is not to be supposed that any healthy animal is deprived of life simply because it has no home. That 150 only were found fit to be placed in homes last year, shows the extent to which disease is generated in deserted and neglected animals. The league seems to have a specific and helpful mission to perform. It is to be hoped that its work will expand to include the establishment of the projected country annex and a home of rest for horses similar to that now so successfully conducted in London. And all this more for the suffering animals rescued than for the helping of humanity to the three feelings and higher living to which so many are born strangers and grow up in that condition.

Board of Green Cloth—Its Functions.

You have heard much of the Board of Green Cloth, but probably you do not know what its functions are and the need of it from a financial point of view. First, it takes its name from a green cloth spread over the table at which the board sits. This board is presided over by the Lord Steward, who, with the inferior officers, sits to pass the accounts of the royal household. It is the countnghouse of the Queen's establishment, and at the same time a little court of justice, with power to correct all offenders who break the peace of the verge—which means the court royal—which extends every way for 200 yards from the gate of the palace. Without warrant first obtained from this board no servant of the household can be arrested for debt, so to be a queen's servant is to some extent on a par

with being a member of Parliament—Pearson's Weekly.

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